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16 August 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Critical Collection Problems
Committee of USIB

SUBJECT : Intelligence Contingency Planning for
Vietnam Theater

1. The Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs has requested that the Director of Central Intelligence coordinate the development of a comprehensive plan for the use of intelligence resources to monitor enemy performance under a possible agreement calling for a total bombing halt or a general cease-fire in Vietnam. A copy of the Special Assistant's memorandum to the DCI is appended hereto for the information of the Committee.

2. The DCI has decided that USIB is an appropriate body to provide the above-described plan and has asked me to undertake and monitor action within the USIB structure to develop such a plan.

3. Accordingly, you are requested as a matter of urgency, and using the resources of your Committee, to undertake the development of the desired plan for approval by USIB. A status report on progress made in the preparation of the plan should be ready for signature by the DCI before the close of business on 9 September.

4. For your information, a good bit of related work on this problem is already in progress or has been completed. Specifically:

a. Requirements have already been defined in SNIE 14-3-68, in two COMIREX papers which have been approved by USIB and are available through the USIB Secretariat, and in a paper provided by the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the Department of State dated 9 May 1968 which should be available through the DIA member of the CCPC.

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b. The SIGINT Committee is now coordinating for submission to USIB the draft of a paper describing the SIGINT requirements in Vietnam under the conditions described above.

c. Intelligence Requirements Staff of CIA has been considering this problem and should be able to provide the CCPC with the benefit of the informal suggestions they have made so far.

5. It would appear to me that something more could be said about the capability and employment of human collection resources than is indicated in the programs covered by the above-mentioned SNIE.

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Forus Taylor
Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy
Deputy Director

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